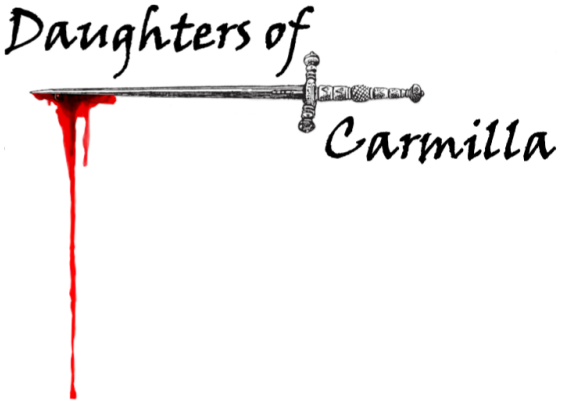


genderstink: to stink is to be free

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Brief thoughts on embodying queer rebellion

By Void (they/them(/it)); a nonbinary Jewish crustpunk with hyperhidrosis

“Hyperhidrosis is a common condition in which a person sweats excessively.

The sweating may affect the whole of your body, or it may only affect certain areas. Commonly affected areas include the:

- armpits
- palms of your hands
- soles of your feet
- face and chest
- groin

”





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For those of us who refuse to fit into this stifling, destructive box, one of the easiest and most upsetting ways we can rebel against this is to stink.

Openly,

comfortably,

and happily stink.

To abandon the deodorants and perfumes and sprays we're told must be vital parts of our everyday wear.

To not shower every single day.

To re-wear clothes as long as we want if we can't be fucked changing.

Femininity can be described as the behavioural and performative component of the cisheteropatrairchal conception of womanhood and it is deeply tied with heterosexuality.

It is the unwritten set of rules, behaviours, expectations, and others, which women, and people that are maliciously or ignorantly misread as women, are expected to conform to in order to correctly be a woman.

How we speak, how we dress, how we act, how we carry ourselves; all of these things and more are under constant scrutiny and are policed so that we are, at all times, supposed to be a woman correctly.

It is then the right of those of us who don’t sit so comfortably in this stifling box to reject this femininity, and for some, womanhood entirely and to find as many ways to rebel against it as we can. In a world where our bodies are so closely watched and where ridiculous standards are expected of us, there's

relief,
joy,
and power

in being able to just let our bodies do what they do.

And one of the most upsetting (to cishet and class society) things our bodies do is smell.

We're bombarded with propaganda every day telling us we need to Smell Good™ at all times in order to be socially accepted. For people cisheteropatriarchal-society shoves into the box labelled "woman", it comes with even stronger expectations that we must smell perfect, like a bouquet of roses and lavender at all times in order to be appealing and sexually available to men.

